

THE VINITA WEEKLY CHIEFTAIN.

VOL. XXI.

VINITA, INDIAN TERRITORY, THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 1903.

NO. 31

White AND Red Clover, Redtop, Bluegrass, Bermuda and Alfalfa Seed at Darrough's.

WATER WORKS.

Municipal Council Takes
Action Toward the Issu-
ance of Bonds.

WILL TAKE CENSUS

And order Special Election to Vote
Bonds for System of Public
Water Works, to be Held
May the First: Great
Step Forward.

The council by resolution passed this morning, paved the way for water works and sewerage. \$65,000 is to be made available for the purpose. The importance of this step cannot be overestimated. The time is opportune for us to decide whether Vinita shall take her place among the important cities of the territory or remain in the background a country town. The council is to be congratulated upon taking the responsibility of the initiative in this matter. After the publication of the resolution a census will be taken as required by law. This will be a simple matter for it has not been long since a thorough census was had on the issue of the school bonds, and the assessor is just completing another. Then a time will be fixed for a special election to vote on the proposition. It is hoped this election may be held by May 1st. Nothing further can be done by the present council and they have not and will not make any provisions for preliminary survey or otherwise enter into any contracts that might embarrass their successors.

VALUABLE INFORMATION

To Parties Who Are About to Select
and File on Their Land
Allotments.

The following figures will come handy to Cherokee when they are thinking of selecting their allotments.

The appraisement parties made eighteen classifications of Cherokee land, giving each a value as follows: Natural open bottom land, \$5.50; best black prairie land, \$5.50; bottom land covered with timber and thickets, \$6.50; best prairie land other than black, \$5; bottom land subject to overflow, \$4.00; prairie land, smooth and tillable, \$4.00; rough land, free from rocks, \$3.00; rolling land, free from rocks, \$4.00; rocky prairie land, \$2.50; sandy prairie land \$2.50; alkali prairie land, \$3.00; hilly and rocky land, \$2.00; swamp land, \$2.50; mountain pasture land, \$1.50; mountain land, sandy loam, \$1.50; mountain land, silicious, \$1.00; rough and rocky mountain land, 50 cents; flint hills, 50 cents. Sometimes an allotment does not amount to \$325.00 in value allowed to each allottee, in which event the allottee takes another place somewhere else. For instance, if a man selects sixty acres of \$5. land he still has \$25. due him and with that he can select fifty acres of 50 cent land miles away if he wants to. But it must always be in ten-acre lots, and as a result there will be many small holdings scattered about the territory.

A Fitting Inscription.

The Des Moines (Ia.) Register and Leader insists that if a monument to Lee is ever erected on the battlefield of Gettysburg, a fitting inscription for it would be Ben Hill's famous eulogy: "He was a foe without hate; a friend without treachery; a soldier without cruelty; a victor without oppression; a victim without murmuring. He was a public officer without vices;

a private citizen without wrong; a neighbor without reproach; a Christian without hypocrisy and a man without guile. He was a Caesar without his ambition; a Frederick without his tyranny; a Napoleon without his selfishness and a Washington without his reward. He was obedient as a servant and as royal in authority as a true king. He was gentle as a woman in life; modest and pure as a virgin in thought; watchful as a Roman vestal in duty; submissive to law as Socrates and grand in battle as Achilles."

IMMIGRATION MEETING.

The Immigration Agents of the Frisco
System held a Meeting at Okla-
homa City Friday.

The following from the Daily Oklahoman shows how they were received in that city:

"The immigration agents of the Frisco system surely had possession of Oklahoma City yesterday, and there were fully two hundred of them in the city. The morning was spent in friendly greeting and making acquaintances, and when a trainload of recruits arrived in the afternoon the entire body of visitors was taken in charge by President S. C. Heyman and committees and driven about the city in carriages and there was no end to the exclamations of surprise and delight from the visitors, who were all of the opinion that Oklahoma City is the best town in the Southwest."

A reception and luncheon was tendered the immigrant agents at night by the Chamber of Commerce.

Two Strenuous Men.

The Columbia Herald says that if Dave Francis should be nominated against Roosevelt "it would be one strenuous candidate against another. The two men are much alike. They are full of energy and resourcefulness. They bring things to pass. They know how to do things in a hurry. They are typical Americans." Still, it is suspected that if yoked together in a trial of strenuousness the president would quickly make the Missourian feel sick, virile as the latter is.

Wagoner Water Works.

Wagoner has granted a franchise to a water company for thirty years, the city government paying \$5,000 a year for 65 hydrants for fire protection. The new company is to file acceptance within a few days and put up \$5,000 cash or bond to begin work in sixty days and complete the system in one year. The city has the privilege of buying the plant at the end of ten years at the appraisement then to be made. It looks like a big sum for that place to undertake to pay, but it is likely the difference in insurance will justify it, to say nothing of the sanitary effect.

Over at Muskogee the political parties are playing an "opera buff" game. One side roars while the other laughs. Then the other party gets a kink in its tail and howls with a chorus of guffaws from 'tother party. Its all old chestnuts and Muskogee is working to its own injury at the instance of some petty politicians.—Ardmoreite.

A Remarkable Case.

One of the most remarkable cases of a cold, deep seated on the lungs, causing pneumonia, is that of Mrs. Gertrude E. Penner, Marion, Ind., who was entirely cured by the use of One Minute Cough Cure. She says: "The coughing and straining so weakened me that I run down in weight from 148 to 92 pounds. I tried a number of remedies to no avail until I used One Minute Cough Cure. Four bottles of this wonderful remedy cured me entirely of the cough, strengthened my lungs and restored me to my normal weight, health and strength."—A W Foreman.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE.

General Statement By City Officials
of Work Accomplished During
the Year About to Close.

Citizens of Vinita:—

We deem it our duty to make a statement showing in a general way what we have accomplished, including a general and financial statement of the city's condition.

Upon assuming control of municipal affairs our attention was directed first to the unsanitary condition of the business section, and the miserable state of the public well. An ordinance was immediately passed making it the duty of the scavenger to inspect and report unsanitary condition of premises to the marshal, who should apply for a warrant of arrest. We did not stop there. Under the personal supervision of the Sanitary Committee the work of cleaning up was inaugurated, peremptory notices given to negligent ones, and in a remarkably short time the district was comparatively clean and remained so during the entire summer season.

A contract was made with the Ed. Lee Hardware Co. to construct a fountain and otherwise improve the artesian and surface well at the intersection of Illinois avenue and Wilson street; the result was a very pleasing and useful fountain over one, and the other was walled with brick, covered with a manhole, and connected by a waste pipe with the fountain, thus insuring an abundant supply of water at all times for fire purposes.

On June 18th, the council by unanimous vote authorized the offer of Ten Thousand Dollars for the Public School Property. This offer was accepted. It became necessary to issue bonds to raise the money. Thereupon the formalities required by law such as the proper resolutions, census, court orders, special election, special levy, advertisement and sale of the bonds, were successively and carefully gone through with. At the special request of the school board, the issue of bonds was made \$12,000, instead of the amount bid to cover additional expense of improving and acquiring title to the property from the Cherokee Nation. On October 18, before the time fixed for issuing the bonds it became necessary, in the judgment of the school board and council, that the purchase should be completed at once. Thereupon, our three banks were called upon, and they advanced the city \$6,000. This amount with \$4,000 then in the treasury enabled us to perfect the purchase, and a satisfactory conveyance was made to the city. Our bonds were advertised for November 1. The conditions in financial circles were very unfavorable. During October there was a semi panic in New York. We advertised the bonds extensively through out the east, and distributed by mail 75 copies of the pamphlet setting forth the issues. We had nothing to lose by going ahead, as the expense had been incurred. Bids were received. The only one in due form, and which was accepted was from Chicago and offered par, and the lithograph bonds free. We accepted this. First, because the issue was a small one and one per cent premium would have amounted to only \$120. The lithographing represented an expense of \$35; another advertisement in eastern and local papers would have cost \$50, and the interest on the \$6,000 borrowed from local banks was accumulating all the time. The expense of another advertisement taken with the delay would most likely have exceeded any premium we could have secured. Buyers handle bonds on commission and it requires a large issue to attract

many bidders. Conditions since show that at no time since could we have sold this issue more advantageously. By this purchase a most valuable acquisition was made to the city's wealth, of inestimable value for school purposes, and worth a great deal more than was paid for any purposes. We are proud of having completed this transaction, and desire to make grateful acknowledgement to the school board, particularly its president, Dr. Clinkscapes, and to W. H. Kornegay, Esq., the local representative of the society for valuable counsel and assistance.

Immediately after the adoption of the Cherokee Agreement the location of the land office began to be discussed. We lost no time in presenting Vinita's claims, and enlisting friends from the outside in her behalf, among others, a strong telegram was sent by B. F. Yoakum from New York in our behalf. Many other towns presented their claims for preferment and at times the contest was acrimonious. Our efforts were crowned with success. The location of this office has been of great value to Vinita in many ways.

We next made a determined effort to secure a separate Townsite Commission, and failing in that to have the general commission located here and our city the first appraised. Mr. Wright gave us several hearings and the matter was extensively discussed. He could not accede to our first request but did agree the headquarters of the Commission should be at Vinita, and ours should be the first town appraised. The advantage to us of this is familiar to all. We are at least a year ahead of other important towns in the Nation as a result. In this work before the Dawes Commission and Indian Inspector most valuable assistance was given by our fellow townsmen, Edgar Smith, Oliver Bagby, P. L. Soper, L. B. Bell, Chief Buffington and J. H. Huckelberry, Jr.

The appraisement of the property belonging to the city is most satisfactory. We were given hearings by the Commission and succeeded in securing remarkably low appraisements for the parks and cemetery.

At one time it appears a street and building grade was made for the town. It disappeared years ago, and in the meantime buildings have been erected without reference to grade or drainage. We engaged H. H. Heilen, a competent civil engineer, who has made for the city a street, sidewalk and building grade. In the future all work should be done on this grade insuring uniformity in streets, sidewalks and business houses throughout the city. In addition the council has passed an ordinance providing that in residence districts the curb shall be twenty feet from lot line on 100 foot streets, and 15 feet therefrom on 80 foot streets; in the center of this reserve a walk four feet wide is provided for and on either side space will be left for a small grass plot and shade trees. It will be surprising how beautiful a street may become if improved in this way.

Our work on the streets has been greatly retarded by the weather. We made a great many improvements and graded several streets during the summer, and they have withstood this horrible weather comparatively well. Our original intention to extensively improve the two business streets was somewhat retarded by the delay in appraisement, but we, nevertheless, in May, passed a resolution requesting property holders on Wilson street and Illinois avenue to advise us in writing whether they would improve the gutters and sidewalks, if the city would raise funds to improve the

streets. Only one reply was received. In October we determined to proceed and do the best possible. After considerable difficulty a contract was made in Galena, and cars were secured for rock from the mines, and we now have on hand six hundred wagon loads of the hardest rock and best possible material for street grading. The weather has made it impossible to proceed with the work; we hope, however, to have it fairly started by the first of the month.

The condition of the street has been such we determined to try paving for the business section. With that idea in view we made some inquiries and ascertained that the work had been successful elsewhere, especially that done by the W. A. Stuckey Construction Co., of Coffeyville. We sent for him and requested that he make an estimate for paving the square around the fountain to be a basis or sample for future improvement along the same line. He did so and agreed to use Joplin rock for packing and bed, best vitrified street brick, and do the work in first class shape for 25 cent per square foot, and in addition furnish rock to pack streets on four sides ten feet back from brick work also 300 feet of 8 inch tile, and lay brick six feet all around fountain in Portland cement and on concrete bed, and the same with drains from fountain. Although this is a small job the price, considering material furnished, will compare favorably with work done elsewhere, and even in the district where the brick as well as the stone used for the bed and packing, is at hand.

The fire engine has been improved to meet the conditions of our water supply, and so that it might be hauled by horses; likewise a building has been constructed in which to keep it. To further protect the city in this regard a determined stand was taken by us at the outset against the construction of buildings with sheet corrugated iron within the fire limits.

No serious offenses have been committed in our midst the past year. Our town has been comparatively free from crime. Mr. Ledbetter has been a very efficient officer. The use of the parks for Sabbath desecration and disturbances was prohibited by us at the outset, and looting of small boys on the streets at night stopped. Clay Tittle was arraigned for disturbing the peace and was convicted, and upon his refusal to pay the fine and costs, ordered to work the streets, as provided by ordinance. He refused. Upon hearing he was discharged from custody by order of the United States Court, and while the authorities of the Town to enforce its ordinances by imprisonment, or by working the streets, was not directly passed upon, the result of the proceeding served to direct attention to the point, and called from many well informed grave doubts upon the subject, and no further attempt was made to exercise a doubted authority. During the year there were convictions before the mayor in 38 cases, acquittals in 10, dismissed by city 8. Of those convicted 9 have not paid fine or costs. All of them are irresponsible financially except Wm. Raines and in his case suit has been instituted in U. S. Court to recover the fine and costs.

In the collection of the street tax were partially successful, the Commissioner having succeeded in collecting more than three times the amount ever realized before, and besides inducing many to work upon the streets. Efforts to compel others to do so met with the same obstacle encountered in the collection of fines.

Quite a great deal of charitable

work has been done this winter by the city. Many were found suffering for the barest necessities. Their needs were attended to. In this work we were ably assisted by Reverends Wolfe and Stubblefield.

During the year we have had many prominent visitors. Besides Territorial and R. R. officials, we were honored with the presence of Acting Secretary of the Interior Thos. Ryan, and U. S. Circuit Judge Sanborn. They were entertained and shown every courtesy possible.

It is not our fault new stations have not been erected here. The railroad officials freely admit this. Scarcely a week has passed without some protest or inquiry has been forwarded. They have repeatedly promised to erect a commodious passenger station, but as yet, we regret to say, nothing is assured.

We are arranging to plant a large number of trees in South Park and also in the Cemetery.

It having been ascertained that Vinita possessed the requisite number of inhabitants to entitle it to be a city of the second class, we began, as soon as we were advised it was possible under the law, to secure its advancement. The necessary orders were made, and we have carefully prepared an ordinance perfecting the organization of a city, respecting the election, duties and compensation of the various officers, which we are confident will meet the requirements of the new government. This change will place Vinita among the other important cities, and vest in its officers additional powers, essential to the proper administration of its affairs.

The time is opportune for water-works and sewerage. Conditions demand that Vinita have them without delay. We must maintain our position among the important cities of the territory. In order that there might be no delay we have taken the initiative. A resolution adopted calls for the issuance of \$95,000.00 bonds for water-works and sewerage. This will be ample to our judgment, and the work if well managed will easily be self sustaining in a few years. A special census will be taken, and an election called if possible to vote on the proposition not later than May 1st.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Tax Collections | \$ 10,238.87 |
| Delinquents, amounting to | 448.67 |
| RECEIVED: | |
| Treasurer received from Probation | 10.15 |
| Treasurer received from sale of bonds | 12,000.00 |
| Treasurer received from City Collector | 10,013.36 |
| Treasurer received from Street Com. | 293.50 |
| Treasurer received from Licenses | 728.29 |
| Treasurer received from Fines | 188.46 |

| | |
|--|-------------|
| PAID OUT: | |
| For Public School Property | 10,000.00 |
| Interest on loan, paid bank | 51.80 |
| Amount transferred to school fund | |
| Outstanding \$10.15 | 6,017.59 |
| Surplus from sale of school bonds | 2,004.00 |
| Warrants paid out of school funds | 3,065.00 |
| Balance | \$ 4,956.31 |
| Amount transferred to general fund | \$ 4,005.84 |
| Amount of Licenses and Fines collected | 916.96 |
| Am't paid out of this fund \$5,078.48 | |
| Overdraft | \$ 158.68 |
| Amount received in street fund | \$ 393.50 |
| Warrants paid | \$187.74 |
| Balance | \$ 205.76 |
| Amount of money now in Treasury | \$ 1,203.42 |

Investigation discloses that we have paid out for indebtedness incurred and warrants issued by the former administration the sum of \$2,927.83. We invite a comparison of this statement with those of any former administration.

We have labored diligently and earnestly to protect the interests of Vinita and her citizens, and while we have not pleased everybody perhaps, we believe our work will be generally appreciated and approved.

Respectfully,

L. F. PARKER Jr., Mayor.
C. A. BRADLEY, Recorder.
W. H. DARROUGH,
R. F. FORTNER,
A. N. GREEN,
E. N. RATULIFF,
J. C. STARR,

Council.

The Stomach is the Man.
A weak stomach weakens the man, because it cannot transform the food he eats into nourishment. Health and strength cannot be restored to any sick man or weak woman without restoring health and strength to the stomach. A weak stomach cannot digest enough food to feed the tissues and revive the tired and run down limbed and organs of the body. Kodol Dyspepsia Cure cleanses, purifies, sweetens and strengthens the glands and membranes of the stomach, and cures indigestion, dyspepsia and all stomach troubles. A W Foreman.